



FAITH - KNOWLEDGE

Perspective of

SAID NURSI

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Revisiting Ustad Saeed Nursi's response to Modernity and its Implications

Dr Zubair Zafar Khan*

Introduction

Throughout the history of Islam, 20th century has an outstanding significance for two great events, which never occurred before, among them, the fall of Caliphate in Turkey and the rise of European powers and their domination in the fields of Arms, Natural Sciences and Technology. Because, till date Islamic powers dominate the world in these fields and it was the first incident in the history that the Caliphate was abolished totally. These two events shaken the whole Islamic world but with these worse catastrophes the most important aspect which impulse the Islam with fresh endeavor is that, most of the intellectual personalities and reformist movements erupted out in whole Islamic world to fill the void and to revive the Islamic faith. Among those famous personalities were Shaykh Muhammad bin Abdul Wahab in Saudi Arabia, Shaykh Rashid Raza, Muhammad Abduh and Ali Abdurrazzaq in Egypt, Ustad Badiuzzaman Saeed Nursi in Turkey and in India Sir Sayyed Ahmad Khan, Moulana Muhammad Ali Johar, Maulana Qasim Nanutavi, Maulana Muhammad Ilyas Kandhlawi, Mulana Husain Ahmad Madani, Maulana Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Maulana Shibli Nomani, Maulana Ashraf Ali Thanwi etc. Among movements were Wahabi Movement in Saudi Arabia and Ikhwanul Muslimeen in Egypt, Nursi Movement in Turkey similarly Khilafat Movement, Deoband Madarsa, Jamat-e-Islami, Tableeghi Jamat, Nadwatul Ulama, Aligarh Movement (Aligarh Muslim University) etc in India. Among these great Islamic luminaries of the age, Ustad Badiuzzaman Saeed Nursi of Turkey has an outstanding position. He worked in the worse conditions among his contemporaries because most part of his adult life spent in

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